IN THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method for the diagnosis an individual's predisposition to an immunological disorder, the method comprising:

analyzing said individual for the presence of at least one TIM-1 polymorphism;

wherein the presence of said polymorphism is indicative of an individuals predisposition to develop said immunological disorder.

2. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing step comprises:

contacting a biological sample comprising nucleic acids from said individual with a probe that specifically binds to one or more of the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28 or a fragment thereof; and

detecting the presence of a complex formed between said probe and said nucleic acid.

3. (original) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said biological sample comprises nucleic acids specifically amplified with sequences set forth in one or more of SEQ ID NO:18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28 or a fragment thereof.

4. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing step comprises contacting a biological sample comprising nucleic acids from said individual with a probe that specifically binds to the nucleic acid sequence ~~ATGACAACGACTGTTCCA~~ encoding the amino acid sequence MTTTVP, SEQ ID NO:25, residues 158-163; and

detecting the presence of a complex formed between said probe and said nucleic acid.

5. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said determining comprises:

contacting a biological sample comprising protein with an antibody that specifically binds to one or more of the proteins having amino acid sequences as set forth in SEQ ID NO:17, 19, 21, 23, 25, and 27;

detecting the presence of a complex formed between said antibody and said protein.

6. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 5, wherein said determining comprises:

contacting a biological sample comprising protein with an antibody that specifically binds to an epitope comprises the amino acid sequence MTTTVP, SEQ ID NO:25, residues 158-163;

detecting the presence of a complex formed between said antibody and said protein.

7. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said biological sample is blood or a derivative thereof.

8. (original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

analyzing said individual for the presence of hepatitis A virus (HAV) seropositivity.

9. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said immunological disorder is an atopic disorder.

10 – 19 (canceled)